

## Fall Statewide Assessment Participation Guidelines for Grades 2-8

### Fall 2011 NECAP and School Year 2011-2012 NH-ALPs

#### Elementary/Middle School Students who Must Test

**All\*** *NH public elementary/middle school students*, regardless of placement, are required (except as noted below) to participate in each content area of the statewide assessment at the elementary/middle school level. as follows:

- **Grade-Level Assessment (NECAP):**
  - Unless a student meets participation criteria for the alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards, he or she must participate in the grade-level NECAP academic assessment. A student is assessed with the fall grade-level NECAP in reading and mathematics each year that he or she is in any grade 3 through 8 (as of October 1, 2011 as reported in the BOY (Beginning of Year) enrollment file) and in writing each year he or she is in grade 5 or 8 (as of October 1, 2011 as reported in the BOY enrollment file).
- **Alternate Assessment (NH-ALPs):**
  - A NH student who meets the participation criteria for NH alternate assessment (NH-ALPs) must complete a portfolio in reading and mathematics each year she or he is in any grade 2 through 7 (as of October 1, 2011 as reported in the BOY enrollment file), and in writing each year she or he is in either grade 4 or 7 (as of October 1, 2011 as reported in the BOY enrollment file).
  - A NH student who meets the participation criteria for NH alternate assessment (NH-ALPs) must complete a portfolio in science each year she or he is in grade 4 or 8 (as of October 1, 2011 as reported in the BOY enrollment file).
- **Students in the court system**, unless incarcerated as an adult, must participate.
- **Students who repeat a grade** that is included in the statewide assessment must participate.
- **Students in elementary/middle school alternative programs** must participate.
- **Foreign Exchange Students:** Foreign exchange students (enrollment status 11) must participate.

**Assessment Timing:** NECAP and NH-ALPs tests measure student progress in learning academic content learned during grades 2-7 for reading and mathematics, grades 4 & 7 for writing, and grades 4 & 8 for science. The assessments are completed at different times during the year. NECAP reading, mathematics and writing tests are given during a 3 week window at the beginning of the following school year. In contrast, both NECAP Science and NH-ALPs are given during the year that material is being taught. NH-ALPs portfolio work samples in all content areas are collected during the winter and spring of the school year in classrooms as the students are learning the material. NECAP science testing is conducted during a 3 week window each May.

**All\*** Except for cases listed below, *All\* NH public elementary/middle school students* is defined as all students who are enrolled in any NH public school, public academy, or public program, including students attending public alternate and off -site programs; all students who have been placed by any NH district in any non-public or private schools (both in-state and out-of-state); and all students who have been placed by any NH district in any out-of-state public school or academy. These students are identified in the BOY enrollment file with an enrollment status of 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, or 12.

#### Exceptions - Students who are Not Required to Participate in Certain Assessments:

- **NH-ALPs students:** Students who completed and submitted a reading, writing, or mathematics NH-ALPs portfolio in May 2011 should not be tested with the Fall 2011 NECAP. (They may participate on a trial basis.)
- **First Year LEP:** First year LEP students who have been in US schools less than one year (enrolled in US School after October 1, 2010) are exempt from the Reading and Writing tests only.

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- **Students with State Approved Special Considerations (e.g. Medical Exemptions):** These students are exempt from those content areas identified in the written approval by the NH DoE Director of Assessment.
- **NECAP Students who Enroll After October 1:** NECAP students who enroll from anywhere other than a NH district after October 1 do not need to be tested. (NECAP Students who enroll from another NH district during the NECAP test window should complete testing.)
- **NECAP Students who Withdraw During NECAP Test Window:** NECAP students who withdraw prior to finishing testing do not need to finish testing at that location. (For NECAP students, withdrawal status **must** be bubbled on the student's answer booklet). If the student then enrolls in another NH or district, the receiving district should administer the remainder of the test.
- **NH-ALPs Qualifying Students who Enrolled After March 1, 2011:** Students who qualify for NH-ALPs who enroll after March 1, 2011 from anywhere other than a NH publicly funded placement and are enrolled on October 1, 2011 are exempt from the 2011 Fall NECAP test, but are expected to participate in the 2011-2012 NH-ALPs assessment as appropriate. Districts must notify the NH DoE Director of Assessment by October 1, 2011 whenever this happens.
- **NH-ALPs Students who Enroll After March 1, 2012:** Districts that enroll a student after March 1, 2012 who qualifies for NH-ALPs are not required to submit a school year 2011-2012 NH-ALPs portfolio for that student. In all cases, districts must notify the NH DoE Director of Assessment by October 1, 2012 whenever a NH-ALPs qualifying student enrolls in the district after March 1, 2012.
- **NH-ALPs students who Withdraw After March 1, 2012:** NH-ALPs students who withdraw from a district prior to finishing testing do not need to finish testing. Districts should submit for scoring only content areas that are fully completed. Withdrawal status and content areas that were not completed for NH-ALPs registered students must be reported in writing to the NH DoE Director of Alternate Assessments by May 15, 2012.
- Students **adjudicated and incarcerated as an adult in the NH prison system** do not need to be tested.
- **Enrolled Out-of-State:** Students placed out-of-state by the district who participate in the receiving state's assessment and accountability system should not be tested. (Districts must report these students to the NH DoE Director of Assessment no later than October 1 for the fall NECAP and May 1 for the NH-ALPs.)
- **Home Schooled Students:** Home schooled students may, but do not have to, be tested. Participation in NECAP is at the parent's discretion. This applies to students that are fully home schooled (not appearing in BOY file), and those home schooled students who are participating in funded activities at the school (enrollment status 4 in the BOY file).

Additional participation guidance is available on the following topics at:  
<http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/necap/admin/admin11.htm>

- Request for State Approved Special Considerations 2011-2012
- NECAP Accommodations Guide – NH Edition (revised Aug 2010)

And at: [http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/alt\\_assess/part.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/alt_assess/part.htm)

- Alternate Assessment (NH-ALPs)

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